



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
Public Affairs Office

News Release

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Corps invites comment on proposed dredging

Walla Walla, Wash. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is inviting public comment on proposed maintenance dredging in the lower Snake and Clearwater rivers being planned for the 2004-2005 winter, according to a dredging program official.

“We issued a public notice yesterday on lower Snake and Clearwater Rivers Winter Maintenance Dredging 2004-2005,” said Jack Sands, dredging study project manager for the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. “To make the information widely available, we have posted the public notice on our web site at www.nww.usace.army.mil/maintenance_dredging. This document addresses actions the Corps deems necessary to adequately maintain the lower Snake River navigation system and public use areas for the near term.”

The National Marine Fisheries Service plans to issue a Biological Opinion this winter for this proposed action. The Corps proposes to perform the maintenance dredging between December 15, 2004 and March 1, 2005. Comments on the proposed dredging activities should be provided no later than January 17, 2004 to the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Snake River Navigation System Maintenance Team; 201 N. Third Avenue; Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876.

The State of Washington Department of Ecology will review the Corps' proposed maintenance dredging project for compliance with state and federal water pollution control laws. Anyone desiring to present views on the project pertaining to compliance with water pollution control laws may do so by providing written comments no later than January 17, 2004 to the Federal Permit Coordination Team, Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7703.

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